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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 7, 2007, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2007

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, our Father, bless the United States Senate. If anything is dark in it, illumine; if anything is low, raise; if anything is wanting, supply; if anything is in error, correct. Create in this legislative body a unified force for good in which its Members strive to find common ground. May the leaders who debate in this Chamber be led by their conscience and speak to You before they speak to each other. Make Your way clear to them, and may Your glory be their greatest desire.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHERROD BROWN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 4, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHERROD BROWN, a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BROWN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business today. There are no rollcall votes. Yesterday, cloture was filed on the substitute amendment to S. 1082, the FDA bill, and cloture was filed on the bill. In addition, cloture was filed on the motion to proceed to H.R. 1495, the Water Resources Development Act. Votes will begin Monday at about 4 p.m., and there will be several votes at that time. We are disappointed we were not able to finish FDA yesterday, as anticipated. I am confident we can finish it Monday night or Tuesday.

We have a lot to do next week. As I have indicated, I am going to move to the immigration bill on Wednesday so debate on that can start on the following Monday. We also have the op-

portunity to complete our budget for the year. I have spoken to Senator CONRAD on a number of occasions. I have spoken to the Speaker on this issue. It is very close to being in a position that we can bring it to the floor. It is my understanding the House will appoint conferees on Monday, and we will do that on the next day. It is a privileged motion. There is 10 hours of debate, and there are some procedural issues dealing with motions to instruct. We will find out how many there will be on either side. That will take up a lot of time.

The WRDA bill is extremely important. It passed overwhelmingly in the House. I hope we can do the same here.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1301 AND S. 1305

Mr. REID. It is my understanding there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1301) to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

A bill (S. 1305) making emergency appropriations for American troops overseas, without unnecessary pork barrel spending and without mandating surrender or retreat in Iraq, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills en bloc.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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